

NEWS FROM ALL OVER IMPERIAL MISSOURI

Interesting Happenings Which Have Taken Place in the Greatest State in the Union.
The Product of the Scissors, the Pen and a Little Actual Labor.

The Worth county poultry show will be held at Grant City on December 10, 11 and 12.

La Plata has a family named Williams and they spell it Williams.

During the months of July, August and September there were 131 births and 32 deaths in Nodaway county.

Louis Jack Clark, Missouri's baseball evangelist, has been appointed a special policeman at Hannibal.

A rugged husband leading a drunken wife home, rather reversed the usual order of things on the Chillicothe streets the other evening.

Evangelist Billy Sunday has promised to come to Kansas City next April for a revival. And the rabbis and goats shall be down together!

"Tore Turkey's Toe to Tease the Turkey, Then Told the Tale to Tickled Town," is a fair sample of the Cape Girardeau Tribune in an alternative mood as in a headline.

"If the culprits are captured it probably will be by a close shave," says the Leader Times in commenting on a recent robbery at Knobnoster which is but of razors turned a part of the loot.

A man in Montgomery county was convicted of stealing three ducks and sentenced to the penitentiary for two years. The ducks would have sold for \$2.25.

For one hundred years Bonneville has licensed the open drapery. The local option election to be held there December 1, will be the first effort in twenty-five years to make the town dry.

Jonesburg is going in for street lights and as a tax for that purpose cannot be levied before the May election, it is planned to defray the expense by popular subscription.

In the fifty-six years of the life of her son, J. W. Davis of Kirksville, Mrs. Mary Davis, who died there recently had not been separated from him for so long as a single day.

Judge H. G. Orton of Princeton, who for forty-five years has planted cedar reports the first crop failure in his garden for the period. Judge Orton, says the Telegraph, was the first man to name cedar in Princeton.

There will be no "ringing of the new" at Marrison, but just the same under a new city ordinance all young stars caught out after the town clock strikes 9 will be taken in tow and their parents notified.

The Cape Girardeau hunter who reached in a hole to pull out a mink and learned too late that his quarry was a skunk doesn't care to discuss the incident. The Tribune got wind of it, however, and published the story.

Dr. J. N. Coons, Marion county's old ast physician, who died suddenly in Fabius township Tuesday, was born in Kentucky in 1828. When 12 years old he rode horseback to Missouri, locating in Marion county in 1841.

In a Randolph county cornfield the other day while bringing in the shocks R. E. Andrews brought in a skeet as well. The coin which he picked up bears date of 1827, but has not been identified as to denomination.

Bargain hunters at Higginsville are to have two days of opportunity. Next Monday and Tuesday, acting upon a resolution adopted by the board of aldermen, the mayor will sell lots in the city cemetery at a 10 per cent discount.

Wilson Stafford has grown a pumpkin which is now on exhibition at Fox's brothers, weighing 24 pounds and measuring 6 feet in circumference. It makes one's mouth water to think of all the good pie which could be made from this mammoth pumpkin—Dearborn Democrat.

At Lakewood, in eastern Missouri, a three-months-old baby attempted to rescue her favored doll which had fallen in a shop full containing 15 inches of water and fell in herself, and was drowned. A three year old sister saw her fall in but did not comprehend the danger.

At a pie eating contest at Triplett, the winner of the contest was awarded a waistcoat. The Tribune says, on which to wash her face. As the pie exploded for the contest were of the

pumpkin variety some medicinal poultices were necessary.

Kentucky hardware of excellent quality and at reduced prices was what a traveler with an order book was selling recently "cash with order." The checks were raised and presented for payment. The purchased liquor never came and would be patrons are as dry as ever.

Nodaway county's assessed valuation for 1915, is \$13,886,531.44. Last year it was \$12,655,000. The 1915 valuation is divided as follows: Real estate and personal property, \$15,876,882; railroad, telegraph and telephone, \$1,825,154.14; and merchants, \$784,503.

In the death of Mrs. Agnes Simon, which occurred at 7:30 o'clock Monday afternoon West Plains loses the oldest citizen. Mrs. Simon, who was 86 years and 8 months old, resided with her son George Hart, of 407 South Hill street.

A fourteen year old boy whose heart was on his right side was operated on at Chillicothe hospital the other day. An abscess had formed in his left side crowding his heart over to the other side. After the operation the heart moved slowly back and is now resting in its proper place.

From the Denver correspondence in the Grant City Star we learn of the exciting defeat of the Denver in the much-contested games played by that team with the Pinhook aggregation. Pinhook won the five games played. More than five hundred persons witnessed the contest.

On a Burlington train out of Liberty for Kansas City the other day, a woman tried to crowd a white woman out of a seat so that a wench could occupy it. A Liberty, Mo. man took to the situation and gave the harridan pinching will, last him for a while. And who says a Jim Crow law is not needed in Missouri?

Among the 165 hunters who took out licenses in Audrain county this year, the Mexico Lodge, notes that there were more brown-eyed men than those with eyes of any other color. The blue-eyed division came second. Not a license this year was issued to a woman.

Mrs. W. C. Ward of Southville never would have believed that she had lost more than three hundred needles in twenty years, but the other day when she tore up an old pin cushion she found it so full of needles she counted them and there were more than three hundred.

A mild imitation of a 42-centimeter shell was the Sweet Springs Eagles' idea of the incident when a street lamp blew out with dynamite a big maple stump there. One fragment of the stump knocked a large hole in a barn shed, while another knocked off a chimney thirty yards away.

A brutal bit of vandalism is reported from Mercer county where persons unknown visited the pasture of William Cornwell and cut off the tails of three cows and a calf. A driving horse in the same pasture was also a victim, one of its ears having been cut off when found the next day.

For weeks a swarm of bees has been noticed around the cupola of the Bates county court house. The county court ordered the veteran janitor, Elwood Thomas to investigate. He found the bees had deposited about five hundred pounds of honey. He took it to the grocery stores and realized about \$15 from the sale.

Death did not end it all for Hendie, child of Shakespeare. Up at Mound City the other day they tried Hendie for murder in the most court of the local high school. The defense, conducted along strictly modern lines, al leged insanity and the result was a hung jury with the case continued until the next term of court.

Mexico was much excited the other day over the report that a halo of light was following a rural resident who had become converted at a holiness meeting. A Ledger reporter visited the house and sure enough there was a crescent shaped beam on the ceiling of the convert's house. Another reporter was sent and failed to find the halo but was informed that it had gone to church with the holy man.

Tom Gillespie performed an operation on the new pumping machinery at the new school building the latter part of last week and now has the water system in perfect working condition.

BRITISH WOUNDED RETURNING FROM FIRING LINE



UNDERWOOD &
UNDERWOOD

This is believed to be one of the first pictures to reach this country in connection with the desperate British drive at Loos. The losses were extremely large on both sides and hundreds of wounded Tommies trudged back to the field hospitals from the firing line after temporary dressing of their wounds. It is thought that these are the first pictures to pass the censor showing the British wounded after the battle.

URGES CAUTION IN TAKING UP FOX FARMING

United States Department of Agriculture Gives Valuable Information on Subject.

SLUMP IN PRICE OF FURS

Former Rates Not Based on Fair Value of Animals, but on Breeding Possibilities—Choice of Location is of Prime Importance.

Washington, D. C.—Those thinking of engaging in fox farming as a source of profit should consider carefully the cautions and the data as to the expense of equipping a farm and would do well to weigh carefully the conservative statement as to the profits from this industry, which are included in United States department of agriculture bulletin No. 241. The Domestication of the Silver Fox.

The bulletin points out that the prices of furs and of breeding animals have fallen considerably since July, 1914, and states that the prices running into thousands of dollars formerly paid for live silver foxes were based not on the fair value of the animals but on their possibilities as breeding animals, in an industry in which there is great speculative excitement. On this general point the author says:

The business of fox breeding will be on a much more stable basis than at present when the value of breeding animals bears an appropriate relation to the value of their pelts in the open market. The profits in silver fox farming prior to 1910 were realized mainly from the sale of pelts, since then they have been derived almost entirely from the sale of live foxes for breeding purposes. There has been a sharp decline in the price of breeding stock.

Location is Important.

The choice of location for a fox farm is of prime importance. The best fur comes from cool, moderately humid regions. If a locality furnishes native furs of high grade, that locality is favorable to the domestication of fur bearing animals. The climate of the middle and southern states is not well suited to this industry, as shown by the medium or low prices commanded by furs from these areas. The ratio of expense to income must be considered with care. One cannot pay the exorbitant prices demanded for breeding stock and pets, a favorable location, a home for animals, and an ordinary degree of prudence, one may engage in black or silver fox farming with a good prospect of satisfactory returns, provided of course, a high price for pelts is sustained.

Values of animals and pelts were very high a few years ago when the industry was being launched, but are now on a much lower basis. Those who contemplate going actively into the business or investing their money in corporations or companies organized for farming should investigate thoroughly all phases of the business.

The records show that 150 silver fox skins of all grades offered in 1914 at a London auction sales realized an average value of only \$118 each. How to Get "Silvers."

The silver fox is simply a color phase of the common red fox. The name "silver fox" as commonly used by furriers includes the dark phases of the ordinary red fox variously called silver, silver gray, silver black, or black, and is not to be confused with the gray, or tree fox, the fur of which is comparatively little value. The red, the typical cross fox, the silver, and the black fox all interbreed and when this occurs occasional examples of the others may be expected. This fact can be used, as the bulletin points out, to develop silvers by cross mat-

ing and selective breeding is important to produce silver progeny. Breeding to produce less nervous animals, as well as to produce fine pelts, must be considered.

The most valuable skins are those in which the entire pelt is dark at the base and gradually with grayish white. The black skins recently have fallen below others because furriers find they can dye red skins black silver furs can be raised wherever the red foxes live in the wild state but will produce inferior fur only in regions where the fox naturally produces a superior fur. Results of the biological survey show that such calamities occur only north of the southern boundary of the Canadian zone. This boundary, as shown by a map in the bulletin, crosses the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and South Dakota and extends southward along the mountains in New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and in all the states of the Rocky mountain region and westward. South of the forested regions of the northern tier of states and western Oregon, however, the Canadian zone although sufficiently cold, is too dry and sunny for the production of first class fur. In the transition zone, a region less cold, furs having a fair quality of fur may be raised, but the best are obtained only in more northern latitudes.

How to Start Farm.

To raise silver foxes calls for a pair of foxes, which will cost from \$150 to \$250 each for the common silvers, up to several thousand dollars each for the best silvers. The yards in which they are kept must have high and strong wirenet or board fences with an overhang at the top to prevent the foxes from crawling over. These fences either have to be sunk in the ground or the fence wire has to be extended as a mat on the ground to prevent the animals from digging under. The cost of yards run from \$100 to \$150 each, which includes the making of the special dens needed for the animals. The equipment is described in detail in the bulletin. The chief requirements for a fox farm are well-drained, wooded land in a secluded section where the foxes, which are inclined to be nervous, will not be subject to outside disturbance. The ranch must have good drainage and must be partially shaded by a young growth of deciduous trees. Each pair of foxes should have a run of about 2,500 square feet, and provision should be made for separating them. One reason for properly equipping the yard and locating them away from outside interference is the fact that the fox is very nervous about her cubs and frequently mishandles and kills them in attempts to hide them from imaginary dangers. Attendance is an important feature because foxes do not tame readily and rarely become friendly. Constant change of persons in charge, like the presence of absolute strangers, has a detrimental effect on them.

Thrives on Varied Diet.

Foxes require some special attention, certain skill in handling, and great care in feeding. They thrive on a varied diet, including meat, fish, mous, milk, bread and table scraps, but they are easily injured, especially when young, by improper food. It costs from \$1 to \$15 a year to feed foxes, depending on whether there are cubs and whether grain and vegetables are raised on the farm. The fixed annual charge against a pair of foxes will vary with the size and value of the equipment, etc. On some ranches it has been estimated as follows:

Interest on cost of outfit.

Food.

Accommodation.

Apprenticing.

Postage.

Accidents.

Repairs.

Accidents.

Accidents.